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MINUTES FROM RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING DATED 8 JANUARY 2002
CNC CHARLESTON SC (PUBLIC DOCUMENT)
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RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE
CHARLESTON NAVAL BASE
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, January 8, 2002
North Charleston Old Towne Meeting Place

AOC - Area of Concern

RCRA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

SCDHEC - South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

SWMU - Solid Waste Management Unit

USEPA - United States Environmental Protection Agency

UST - Underground Storage Tank

RAB Members Attending

Donald Harbert	Community Co-Chair
Tony Hunt	Navy Co-Chair
Keith Collinsworth	SCDHEC
Bob Dearhart	Community member
Tom Fressilli	Navy SouthDiv
Wannetta Mallette	Community Member
Lou Mintz	Community Member
David Scaturo	SDHEC
Dann Spariosu	USEPA

Guests Attending

Jack Getting	Community member
Paul Bergstrand	SCDHEC
Stacey French	SCDHEC
Jack Gelting	SCDHEC
John Litton	SCDHEC
Marilyn McMillan	SCDHEC
Jo Cherie Overcash	SCDHEC
Susan Peterson	SCDHEC
Gil Rennhack	SCDHEC
Jerry Stamps	SCDHEC
Rob Harrell	Navy SouthDiv
Gary Foster	CH2M-Jones
Dean Williamson	CH2M-Jones
Kevin Tunstall	EEG
Keith Johns	EnSafe

Welcome and Administrative Remarks

Tony Hunt began the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and announced there was a public meeting on the permit modification tonight following the RAB meeting. He added that if anyone would like to be on the mailing list for the SCDHEC, a sign up sheet was provided on the back table.

Introductions were made. Mr. Hunt called for comments on the previous meeting's minutes. He said Jim Augustin sent corrections to the November minutes in reference to Mr. Augustin's presentation at that meeting.

Mr. Hunt announced that all the RAB minutes for the last four years are now on the Web along with the Fact Sheets. Mr. Hunt asked members of the RAB to call him for the web address, as it's rather long. Mr. Hunt invited attendees to ask questions or make comments during the meeting or after the meeting.

Subcommittee Reports

Mr. Hunt reported that the community relations subcommittee met today and was attended by Tony Hunt, Lou Mintz and Keith Johns. The Fact Sheet has been completed and will be Fact Sheet 15. Fact Sheet 15 gives an update on the status of the cleanup work being done. There were some good comments from Lou Mintz that were incorporated into Fact Sheet 15. Copies of the fact sheet were made available to the guests and members. If there are any comments on the fact sheet, call Tony Hunt or Keith Johns.

Environmental Cleanup Progress Report

Status of AOC 607 Interim Measure

Dean Williamson presented an update on the AOC 607 remediation system. The system has operated very well from the perspective of public safety. There have been no significant releases of any vapors from the system. The activated carbon system that cleans the vapors has been working as intended.

The southern portion of the groundwater heating system started in early October. In December, the northern portion started to be heated with the arrival of the second transformer. Today the entire site is being heated. There are temperature monitoring points throughout the site. 100 degrees Centigrade is the typical boiling point of water, but the system only needs to heat up between 92 and 94 degrees, which is where PCE (perchloroethene) starts to boil.

Mr. Williamson presented graphics showing the area being heated and where all the electrodes and temperature monitors are located. There was also a graph showing the temperature of the water seven feet below surface, in the shallowest part of the aquifer.

Back in October and November, the system was being tweaked to get more uniform power delivery between the northern and southern portions of the system. The problems with inconsistent power delivery seem to be resolved. CH2M-Jones is talking to the heating system vendor to improve the heating in the bottom part of the aquifer, 11 feet below land surface. That's where some of the contaminants could be sitting on top of the clay layer, and is an important location for the heat to be reaching.

There is no groundwater performance data yet. Samples have been taken and CH2M-Jones is getting fast turnaround on the reports. Mr. Williamson estimated that they have removed 40 to 50 pounds of contaminants from the groundwater as of today. He expects that amount to increase significantly as the lower part of the aquifer heats up to the proper temperature in the

next few months. Because of the delay in reaching the proper temperature in the lower portions of the aquifer, they expect to operate the system through April, instead of the end of March.

In response to a question about sampling and water temperature, Mr. Williamson explained that water is taken from the heated zones and run through a coil that has ice packs around it. Water samples are then taken from ambient temperature water. This technology is somewhat experimental, and CH2M-Jones is very optimistic that it can be effective.

Discussion on Permit Modification

Mr. Hunt stated the public comment period for the permit modification was advertised in the Charleston Post & Courier on December 21st. The ad essentially said the Navy was preparing to modify the permit and anyone interested in reviewing the permit modification had such an opportunity. The permit modification was made available in several locations; at the Dorchester Road Library (where the information repository is located for this project), and on the Navy base. Contact Tony Hunt in Charleston or John Litton with SCDHEC in Columbia for review.

Mr. Hunt said that Wannetta Mallette-Pratt has looked at the permit modification. There are three things in the permit modification; one is a Statement of Basis for the no further action determination on each site, which is equivalent to a Record of Decision in CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act). This documents what the site was, what the Navy was looking at, what the determination was and the reason for that determination.

This information has been prepared for each of the 25 sites listed in the permit modification, along with any changes that the Navy has made to the site.

Mr. Hunt noted that the appendices to this permit modification list all the sites the Navy is looking at removing from the permit, as well as:

- those that are currently in the RFI (RCRA Facility Investigation) stage,
- those in Confirmatory Sampling Investigation stage,
- those that have no further action in the Corrective Measures Study stage and those that have been transferred over to the UST program and
- those that require land use controls. The Land Use Control Management plan is also included in the appendices.

The twenty-five sites proposed for removal are listed in four categories:

- Category One is where no contaminants were found that were below residential screening levels. Therefore, no land use restriction is necessary. No further action necessary.
- Second category is minor contaminants. Contaminants and their source were removed. This is usually petroleum in the soil and the groundwater was safe. These sites were backfilled with clean soil,
- Third category is for UST sites where corrective action was done. These were done under the UST program, and they received closure from the UST program. This includes the firefighting training area, SWMU 13, which had strictly petroleum contaminants.
- The fourth category is sites where a revised investigative strategy resulting in duplicative

effort. This was done for three "sites" that are actually systems: the railroad system, the sanitary sewer system and the storm sewer system. To avoid duplication, the Navy revised their investigative strategy to study the impacts from these systems on a site-by-site basis. The Navy looked at each of the RCRA sites and investigated any migration pathways from those sites that would affect these systems, or would be affected by the systems. Now they're investigating the sites affected by these systems instead of the systems themselves. Contaminant migration concerns are being addressed as part of other site close-outs.

As a result of this revised investigation strategy, these three "sites" were determined to be duplication of effort, and are proposed for removal.

With the storm sewer system, which is part of the Zone J study, they're looking at effluent from the outfalls as well as the sediment and the manholes connected to that system.

The permit modification document includes a Statement of Basis for each site. The Statement of Basis has a description of the site, what was actually done in terms of site investigation, what decision was made, the basis for that decision, and a map showing the approximate location of the site.

Mr. Hunt then provided a summary of some of the sites included in the permit modification:

In the first category, some of the sites are AOCs 506 through 522, in Zone C around the Naval hospital. These sites were found on very old maps dating back to the 1930s and 1940s that indicated the locations of operations (such as morgues, incinerators, a laboratory, and similar operations) where chemicals were used. These areas were categorized as Areas of Concern and were sampled. No contaminants were found or none was found above residential screening levels, so they were determined to need no further action.

Also in this first category were sites like SWMU 4 - a pesticide mixing area - and SWMU 43 - an old printing shop which is still in operation. At these locations, investigations found nothing above residential screening levels at these sites.

In the second category are sites where Interim Measures have been completed. Sampling after the work was completed showed no contamination in the remaining soil and groundwater above residential screening levels. This category includes sites like AOC 653 and SWMU 13 - the firefighter training area. At SWMU 13, petroleum contamination was found, the site transferred to the UST program, Interim Measure (removal) was completed, and samples indicate the removal was successful.

Mr. Hunt said that every site goes through site closure criteria. They look to see if the site has the potential for migration to the sanitary sewer system or the storm sewer system. They review data to see if there is any arsenic or petroleum hydrocarbons. They ask whether the site is being influenced by either system, or if the site is influencing the systems.

Mr. Hunt responded to a question, stating that there were originally 404 total sites on the base and only about half of those required any investigation. Areas where waste was stored were

originally designated as 'sites,' but very early on it was determined that the waste areas were well maintained and there was no evidence of release. Those areas were determined to be no further action sites back then. Sampling at other sites has found no contamination and these areas are being removed from the permit.

Mr. Hunt noted that a lot of these sites are in the area included in the Phase I and Phase II property transfers. Because those sites require no further action, removing them from the permit will facilitate the property transfer. These sites have no land use controls.

The next permit revision will be between now and April. The property transfer in April will have sites that will require land use controls, either use restrictions or ongoing corrective action that needs to be monitored.

Mr. Mintz asked for clarification on the UST program. Mr. Hunt said, while a huge amount of work was already complete, there are still about 10 sites that need corrective action plans, including a few sites where free product (undiluted) or groundwater contamination have been detected. These sites still require some remediation work, although the tanks have been removed. A few tanks are still being used and are still in the ground.

Mr. Mintz inquired about the radiation program and Mr. Dearhart responded that the Navy received a letter from EPA clearing 90 percent of the base on the day of base closing. Shortly after that, decontamination work was completed and the rest of the base was cleared. Mr. Bergstrand noted that radiation issues were not part of the permit being discussed. There were public hearings on this issue. The reports are public information, and are in the repository. Mr. Dearhart said that he could get copies of the reports for anyone interested.

Meeting adjourned.

Editor's Note: The next meeting of the RAB is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2002.

Tony Hunt
Navy Co-Chair

Don Harbert
Community Co-Chair